

Oxford Revise | Geography | Answers

Chapter 30 The interdependence of rural and urban areas

All exemplar answers given are worth full marks.

1.

a)

i) More wealthy people who have moved to the rural area spend money in the local economy and so support local shops and services.

Accept suitable alternative answers.

ii) Higher property prices, caused by the migration of wealthy people from urban areas, may prevent locals buying homes.

Accept suitable alternative answers.

iii) The advantage for a family moving to an accessible rural area is they get a better quality of life because of the improved access to the countryside and a healthier lifestyle. Lower crime rates and quieter roads make the family feel safer. They would also be able to afford a larger home in the country compared to the town. The disadvantages would be they would have less access to some urban services, such as large supermarkets, leisure, and entertainment. Public transport may be irregular or non-existent making them feel isolated.

b)

i) When people leave towns and cities to live in the countryside.

ii) Topsham is just a short drive to Exeter and so is easy to get to. Safer, quieter village life might appeal to retired people and families when they compare it to possible problems in Exeter, such as crime and air pollution.

iii) An increase in population, caused by people moving from urban areas, increases the demand for housing. The people who move into the village will include commuters and people working from home, as well as those looking to retire,, or to buy a second home if the rural area is a popular tourist area. There is also a shortage of housing as there may be planning difficulties in building new houses in the green belt or converting older properties such as barns or cottages. There will also be a shortage of homes for people who were born in the village and wish to stay there. This is because the demand for houses increases prices and makes them too expensive to buy for local people.

c) This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
3	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate understanding of concepts and the interrelationship of places, environments and processes. • Applies understanding to deconstruct information and make logical connections throughout. • A balanced, well-developed argument. Judgements are supported with evidence throughout. • Uses geographical skills to obtain accurate information that supports arguments.
2	3–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some understanding of concepts and the interrelationship of places, environments and processes. • Applies understanding to deconstruct information and make some logical connections. • Imbalanced argument with mostly relevant information. Judgements are occasionally supported with evidence. • Uses geographical skills to obtain accurate information that occasionally supports arguments.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated elements of understanding of concepts and the interrelationship of places, environments and processes. • Attempts to apply understanding to deconstruct information but this is flawed. • Unbalanced or incomplete argument with limited understanding. Judgements are supported with limited evidence. • Uses some geographical skills to obtain information with limited relevance and accuracy.
	0	No acceptable response

Example answer: *East Devon is an example of a rural area that has seen major economic and social changes. It has increasingly become accessible to the rest of the UK, particularly to London. Commuters and the more elderly who are looking to retire, consider a move to East Devon particularly appealing. This is because London is commutable on an occasional basis in person as it is only 4 hours by rail and 3 and a half hours by car. With increased access to fast broadband in rural areas, telecommuting is now an option for many. There is the major urban area of Exeter nearby with good communications to the rest of East Devon and so is easily accessible for work and leisure purposes. East Devon is an affordable location, particularly for those migrating from London where salaries are significantly higher. Consequently, those moving to East Devon from London can afford a larger property or a second home. In turn, this demand causes property prices to increase, and locals may struggle to either buy or rent homes. The East Devon countryside is attractive to tourists as well as those wishing to relocate. East Devon has a beautiful coastline that appeals to tourists. However, these visitors, especially in the summer, add increased pressure on local infrastructure, such as roads and footpaths, as well as changing the character of 'quiet' villages and popular beaches. Increasing numbers of people moving to East Devon to retire creates pressure on some services, such as health and social care. 30% of residents in East Devon are aged 65 or over and this number is continuing to increase.*

2.

a)

- i) Employers, see the advantages of a happier workforce and cost savings because of the reductions in required office space.

Employees enjoy the flexibility of working from home around other commitments, such as childcare arrangements, without having a long and stressful commute to work.

Accept suitable alternative answers.

- ii) London enjoys several strong pull factors, particularly the employment opportunities in tertiary and quaternary sectors. People also move to London to study, including international students, as well as the appeal of a busy capital city with its exciting cultural, leisure and entertainment opportunities.
- iii) As a world city, London has a large share of global and regional headquarters of TNCs, particularly in financial and business services. London offers highly paid jobs in these industries for skilled workers, such as graduates from elsewhere in the UK as well as overseas. London will continue to be a world city because of its importance in these sectors. As the UK's largest city and capital there are also many lower skilled jobs, such as those in shops and restaurants and the variety of culture, leisure and entertainment are attractive pull factors for people moving from elsewhere. London's dominance as by far the largest and most important city in the UK is unlikely to change and so the population will continue to grow.